November-December

November 16—HHS Open House
Grade 5-6 10:00-11:00am
November 22—Emergency Go Home Drill (15 minute early dismissal)
November 23–25—Thanksgiving Recess (School Closed)
November 29—6th grade Parent Meeting (Greenkil)
November 30—SEPTA Meeting @ Finley 7:00pm w/Guest Speaker
November 30—Picture re-take day

December 2—5th Grade Family Movie Night
December 5—BOE Meeting @ JAI 7:30pm
December 7—Barnes & Noble Night (Northport—Larkfield Rd.)
December 13—Holiday Concert @ HHS 7:30pm (chorus)
December 19—PTA Presidents Meeting 9:45am
December 23-December 30
Winter Recess
School Closed
January 19—Band & Orchestra Concert

Dear Parents and Staff,

As Thanksgiving approaches, please help our student council collect food so that all families can enjoy a feast at their dinner table on Thursday, November 24th. All non perishable items can be placed in boxes located outside the main office in the lobby. We will be donating to “Helping Hands” mission on Friday. Our students will be discussing all the things they are thankful for. Let’s join together to teach our children to be giving.

We completed a beautiful American flag for Veterans Day last Thursday. Every student and staff member had the opportunity to place their handprint on a stripe or star area of the flag. This flag was a dedication to our Veterans. Our students were asked to seek out a Veteran on Friday and thank them for protecting our Country. I also asked them to ponder over a quote and respond with their interpretations so that they can be incorporated into our display. The quote was “Freedom Is Not Free”. Please discuss this with your child and if they would like to hand in a 3x5 card with their interpretation, I would love to add it to our project.

Our PTA will be hosting a Barnes and Noble night on Wednesday, December 7th. This fundraising event is hopefully early enough to purchase your holiday gifts. Parents may shop without their children during the day. Please mention Woodhull when purchasing. Evening hours will be from 5-9pm. Special appearances of ensemble groups from Woodhull will include Mr. Esposito and his band, teachers reading and hosting Trivial Pursuit and serving coffee, drinks and food at the gourmet counter.

Our holiday concert will be on Tuesday, December 13th for grades 5 & 6. Please join us at Huntington High School for a magnificent evening of musical talent.

Woodhull is trying to go “Green”. We are collecting e-mails so we can stop adding to the large amount of paper being used. All e-mails collected will be used to send e-blasts from the district or Woodhull. The e-mail blasts will not be coming from the PTA unless you have joined. Please help us on both accounts. Send in your e-mail address on the tear off. If you would like to also join the PTA and get both e-mails, check the PTA box and submit it with $9.00 for one membership. Remember to ask grandparents, aunts and uncles as this is a great way to support events sponsored by PTA for our children.

This year I am proud to announce that 100% of our teachers have joined Woodhull PTA. Some examples of where your money goes is: playground balls, opening day, enrichment programs such as Giant Map Day, Health & Fitness Week, 5th Grade Movie Night, 6th Grade Pasta Night, Halloween, holiday events and much more.

What is “Wheel Time”….Every day our 5th and 6th graders have a period called the “Wheel”. Do you know what the Wheel means? If not, please take note:

Every quarter, each class rotates (thus the name, wheel) to a new curriculum to enhance their education. Teachers utilize this time to meet with Mrs. Stokkers, Mr. Stein, Directors or central office administration to work on goals for grade levels, curriculum, class and even individual students. Teachers may work with small groups or individual students in this period. Parents may request a meeting with their child’s team. During one of these periods, each week our teachers meet to gather information to put on their e-boards or communication folders to our parents.

The 5th grade wheel consists of one of each of these curriculum areas 5 days a week for the quarter: Library, Computers Choices (character education) and Health. In Health, your child will be discussing personal health, nutrition, growth and development and disease prevention. Health will be taught by Mrs. Daub (certified health teacher). If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to call or leave her a note. Please see page 2 as to the specific lessons taught under each topic.

6th Grade Wheel - consists of Library, Computer, Health and Foreign Language.

The specific curriculum will be in next month’s newsletter.

Parents—Please do not pick up your child before 3:35pm as your child will be missing instruction. If you must pick up your child early for an appointment or family emergency, please send a note in with the exact time your child should report to the lobby. We cannot call into the classroom as instruction will be disrupted.
5th Grade Health Curriculum (cont’d)

Personal Health
- Promoting total wellness
- Connecting lifestyle choices and personal health
- Respecting self and others

Nutrition
- Understanding healthy eating guidelines and what to avoid
- Understanding food serving sizes
- Understanding food labels
- Assessing personal food choices and exercise/physical activity
- Setting a goal to establish a healthy eating pattern and daily exercise routine

Growth & Development
- Baseline knowledge of puberty (the growth & development process)
- Explore the physical, emotional, and social changes during adolescence
- Understand the personal male/female physical changes (non-co-ed)

Disease Prevention
- Exploring virus and bacteria
- Understanding communicable vs non-communicable illnesses
- Understanding the immune system
- Personal lifestyle choices, avoiding illness

CHOICES PROGRAM TOPICS OF SESSIONS FOR 5th GRADERS

  Tolerance  Too Good for Drugs  Time Management
  Peer Pressure  Empathy  Study Skills
  Stereo-typing  Anti-Bullying  Understanding Differences
  Peer Mediation  Anger Management  Goal Setting

Shared Decision Making Team
Our SDM Committee hosted our second “Parent University” workshop on Tuesday, November 15th. The topic was NYS English Language Arts assessments. Join us to find out what they may look like and how to prepare.

5th Grade Band
There will be NO early morning band on Friday, November 18th due to an All-County performance in our rehearsal space at the High School. Don’t forget to mark your calendars for our Winter Concert. We look forward to performing for you on January 19th! More concert details will be sent home as the date approaches. Keep practicing!

Physical Education News—In the month of November, students will be involved in the following activities:

Physical Fitness Testing  Soccer Unit
Abdominal strength: sit-ups  Dribbling: Speed & Control
Upper Body Strength: push-ups  Passing
Agility: Shuttle Run  Shooting
Endurance: 1 mile run  Game like situations

6th Grade Health Curriculum (cont’d)

Personal Health
- Establishing healthy lifestyles during adolescence
- Responsible decision making
- Goal setting: promoting a healthy future

Nutrition
- Build a personal value for healthy eating and daily exercise
- Identify ways to improve food choices
- Demonstrate how to use food labels to make healthy choices
- Analyze the influence of advertising and the media
- Identify benefits of healthy eating and daily exercise during adolescence

Growth & Development
- Explore the emotional and social challenges of adolescence
- Understand the importance of healthy lifestyle choices
- Respecting differences in the maturation process
- Defining and reporting sexual harassment

Disease Prevention
- Immune system review
- Reinforcing the importance of proper daily hygiene (clean body, clothes, teeth, hands etc)
- Personal responsibility for preventing “contagious” illnesses
- Examine how lifestyle choices effects morbidity and mortality

PTA NEWS  Pie sale pickup is Tuesday, November 22nd.

Student Council
Please send in food and new toys for student council community service projects.

HFEE Grant
“Express Yourself” grade 6 public speaking workshops are presently taking place in all sixth grade classrooms (see search e-board under enrichment programs for more information) as an enrichment program for 6th graders.

SEARCH
“Chill With Will” grade 6 SEARCH workshops in Shakespeare will take place on Friday, November 18th in the SEARCH room. Monday, November 21st Grade 5 SEARCH trip to DNA Learning Center relating to genetics and DNA

Greenkill Parent Meeting will be on November 29th, at 7pm in the Woodhull Gymnasium. Please come to learn about the 6th grade 4-day, 3-night environmental camp.

Keep bringing in Box Tops, Campbell Labels and Coke Rewards. We have raised $1200 in Box Top money just for September and October!!!